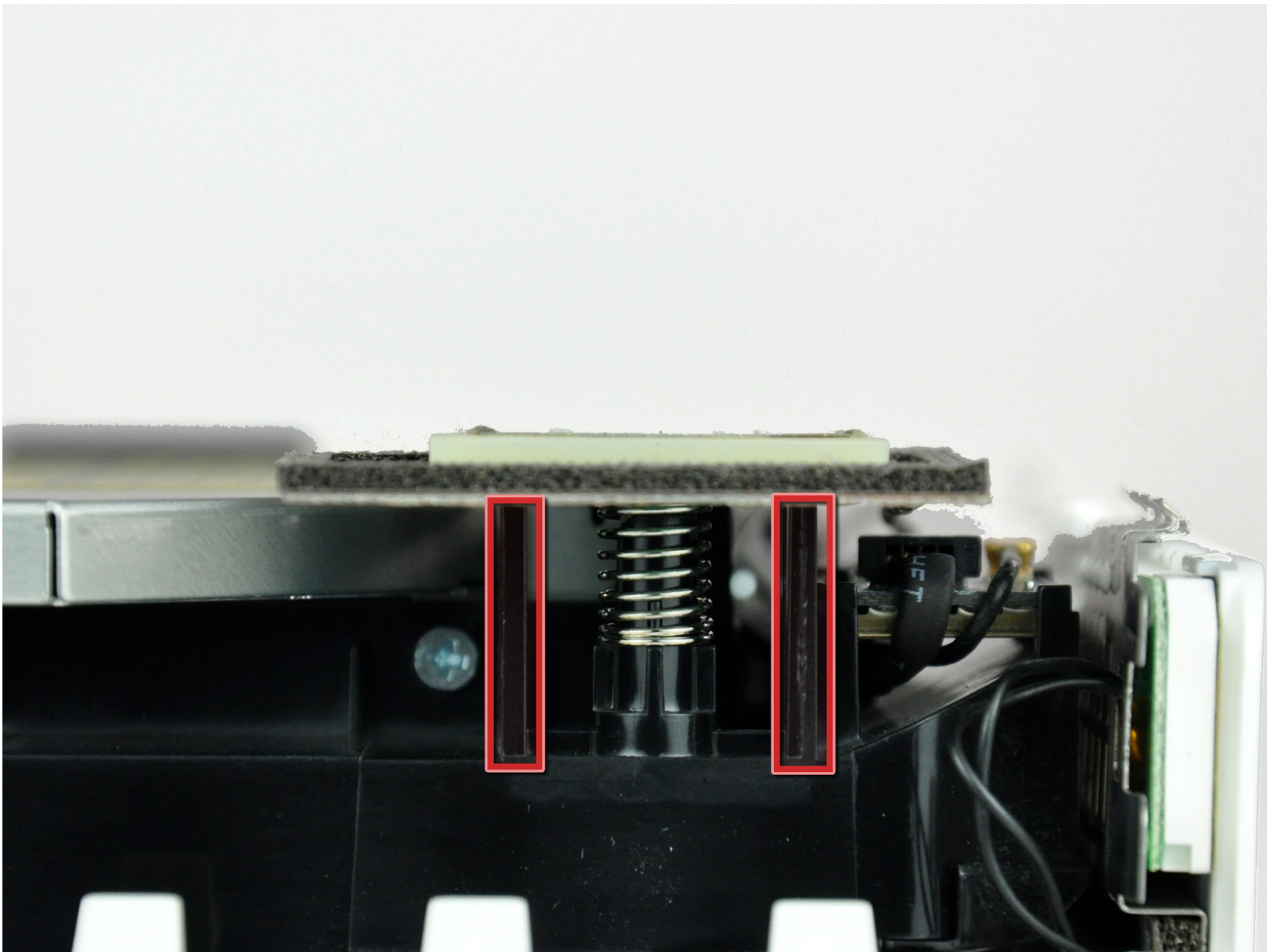




Mac mini Model A1176 Bluetooth Antenna Replacement

Written By: Walter Galan



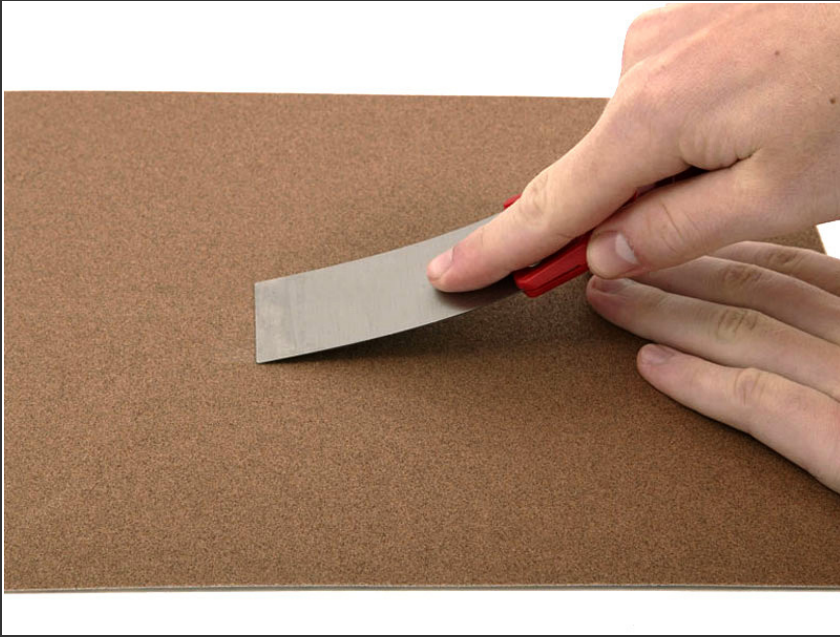
INTRODUCTION

Replace a faulty Bluetooth antenna to regain Bluetooth range.

TOOLS:

- [1.5" Thin Putty Knife](#) (1)
 - [Phillips #00 Screwdriver](#) (1)
 - [Spudger](#) (1)
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Step 1 — Top Housing



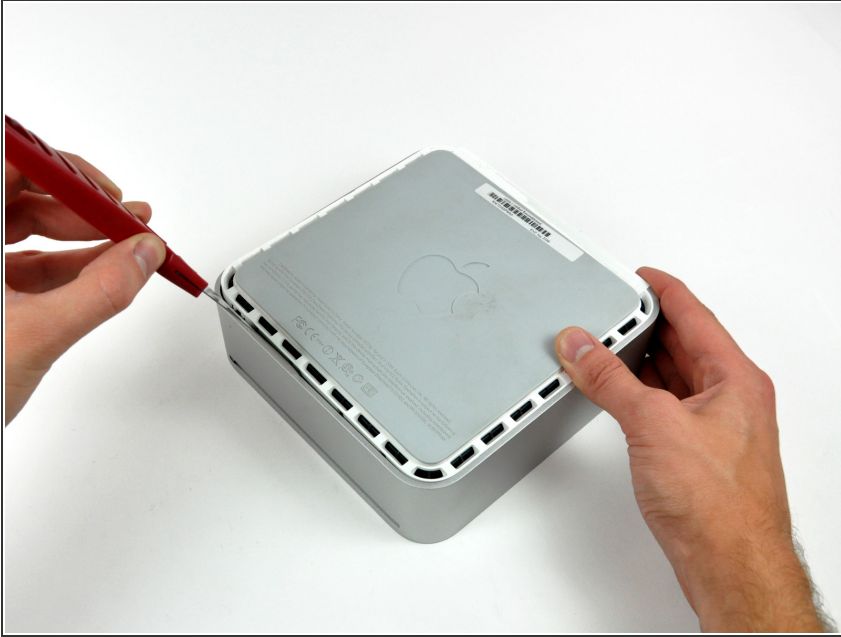
- ❗ You can skip this step if you bought your [putty knife from iFixit](#). Putty knives purchased from iFixit come with pre-ground edges.
- You'll need a putty knife in order to open the case. A 1.5 inch thin putty knife will work well, but you'll want to grind the edge down. Rub the putty knife's short edge back and forth on a sheet of all purpose rough grit sandpaper (100 grit will work fine) until it attains a beveled edge.

Step 2



- Carefully insert a putty knife into the crevice in between the top cover and bottom housing. Start on the left side first. Push the blade down until you meet firm resistance (roughly 3/8 of an inch).
- Gently enlarge the existing crevice by prying the handle of the putty knife downward and away from the mini.
- ❗ It helps to start in the middle, then work along the edge until the bottom housing pops up slightly.

Step 3



- Next insert the putty knife into the crevice on the optical drive slot side of the computer.
- Pry the putty knife downward while working along the edge of the mini until the bottom housing further separates from the top housing.

Step 4



- Repeat the same procedure as the past few steps for the right side of the mini.
- ⓘ At this point, there should be a noticeable gap between the bottom and top housing around the perimeter of the mini.
- Turn the mini over.

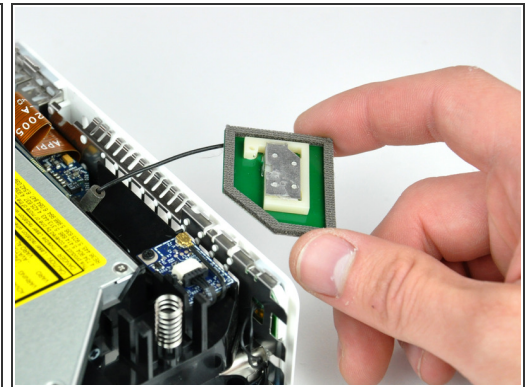
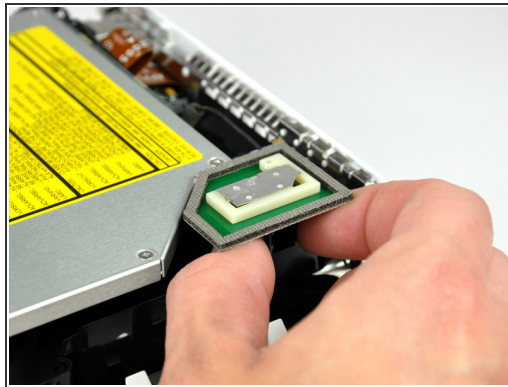
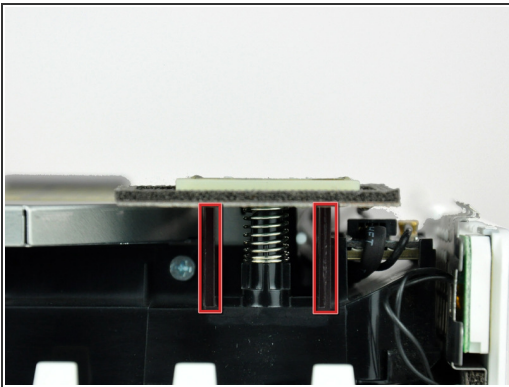
Step 5



- Gently lift the top housing straight up off the mini and set it aside.

i It may be necessary to wiggle the top housing while lifting it off the bottom housing. If any of the tabs get stuck on the top housing, use the putty knife to free them.

Step 6 — Bluetooth Antenna



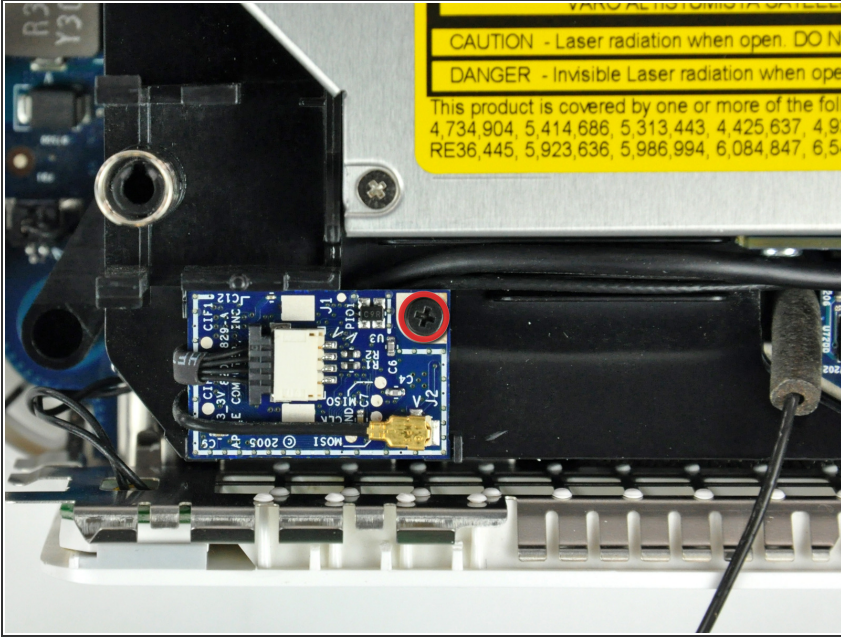
i First remove the AirPort antenna (the larger of the two), located near the power button.

- Slightly squeeze the two retaining arms toward each other and lift the AirPort antenna off its post.

! Squeezing the two posts excessively will surely break them off the internal frame. Work delicately.

🔧 During reinstallation, you will have to slightly squeeze the two posts together so they fit into the openings on the AirPort antenna board.

Step 7



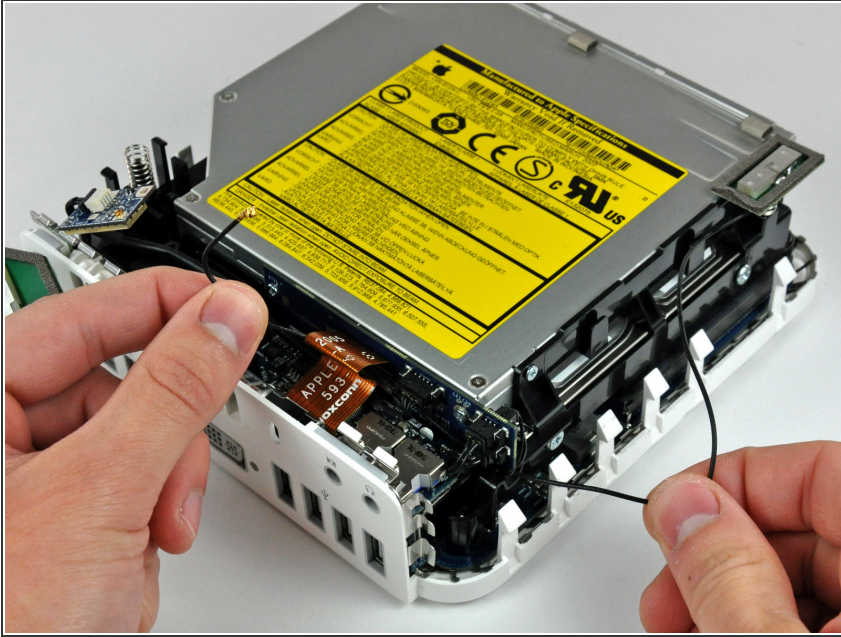
- Remove the single Phillips screw securing the Bluetooth board to the internal frame.

Step 8



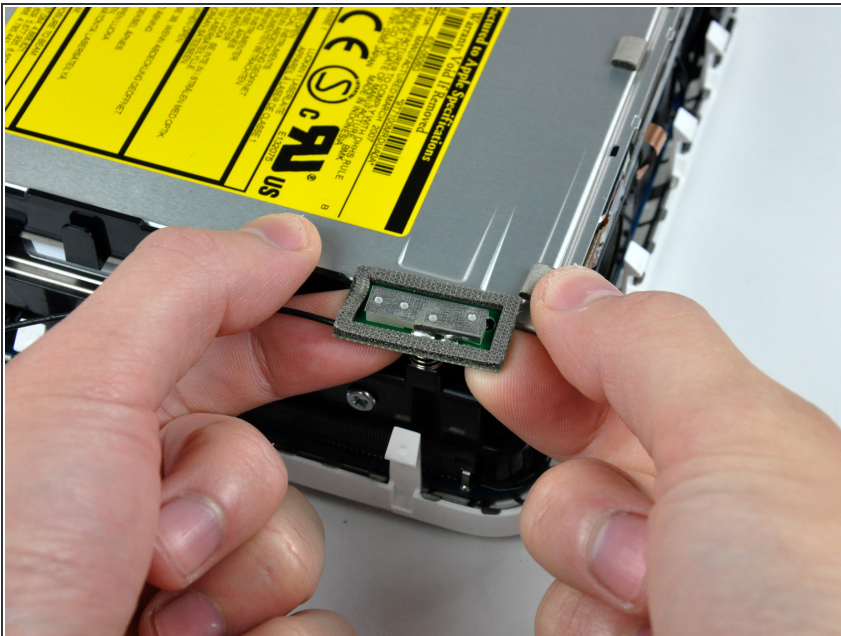
- Lift the Bluetooth board off the internal frame and use the flat end of a spudger to pry the Bluetooth antenna cable connector up off the Bluetooth board.

Step 9



- Pull the Bluetooth antenna cable out from underneath all the cables connected to the interconnect board.

Step 10



- ⓘ The Bluetooth antenna is removed by simply lifting it up off the internal frame.
- Remove the Bluetooth antenna by pushing up on both sides of the board as close to the center post as possible.
- ⓘ This may require a bit of force.
- Remove the Bluetooth antenna from the internal frame.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.

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